

IN THE SPECIFICATION:**Please amend the Specification as follows.**

Please replace Paragraph 26 (the last paragraph on page 6) with the following new paragraph:

Preferably, guide bushing 200 is fabricated from a non-conductive material having a low coefficient of friction. For example, guide bushing 200 can be fabricated from nylon, polyester, polypropylene, ~~Teflon~~, Teflon®, neoprene, and the like or any combinations thereof. Teflon® is a registered trademark belonging to E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co., Inc. Preferred materials of fabrication for guide bushing 200 include, and are not limited to, electrically-non conductive and wear-resistant ceramics and engineered plastics.

Please replace Paragraph 31 (the last paragraph on page 7) with the following new paragraph:

Auxiliary bushing 400 defines a through-bore 402 having a diameter substantially equal to the diameter of electrode 100. Auxiliary bushing 400 is preferably fabricated from a non-conductive material having a low coefficient of friction, e.g., nylon, ~~Teflon~~ Teflon®, etc.